



Robert Taylor Smith

July 23, 1939 - November 30, 2017

Robert T. Smith, 78, of Southport, passed away November 30th, 2017, peacefully surrounded by his family at SECU Hospice House of Brunswick. Robert was born in Albemarle NC July 23rd, 1939 and was the son of the late Effie Taylor Smith and Thomas Bernard Smith. Robert was the eldest of surviving siblings Jerry Smith, Nelson Smith and Virginia Smith.

Robert worked for 40 years with AkzoNobel Coatings Inc. formally known as Reliance Universal in High Point. AkzoNobel is a global leader in the manufacture of paints and coatings. Upon graduating from High Point University as a chemistry major, Robert began his career in the lab mixing chemicals and progressed in the company as a service sales technician. He later became General Sales Manager and retired in 2005 as the Marketing Director of AkzoNobel, Industrial Wood Coatings. In his retirement years, he worked as a licensed Insurance Agent with Health Markets out of Wilmington, NC.

Robert and his wife, Gale enjoyed traveling and congregating on the front porch with their many friends, outings on their golf cart with their dog Boo, and spending quality time with family. Robert's passion was golf and cheering for his beloved UNC Tar Heels. He was a 35 year member of The Rams Club. He was also a longtime member of Sedgefield Country Club of Greensboro, NC. He was a very active member of Jamestown United Methodist Church,

Jamestown NC and later Trinity United Methodist Church of Southport, NC.

Survivors include his wife Gale Davis Smith, daughter Angela Smith Stewart and husband Robert Stewart and his beloved grandchildren, Anna and Patrick Stewart of Fort Mill, SC. He was a wonderful stepfather to Samantha Butts and son-in-law Harold Butts of Buies Creek, NC and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

The memorial service will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church on Thursday, December 7th at 2pm. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the following organizations: Trinity United Methodist Church 209 E. Nash Street, South port, NC 28461 Attn: Financial Secretary; Lower Cape Fear Hospice, Brunswick Care Center 1414 Physicians Drive Wilmington, NC 28401-7335; The Duke Cancer Institute 710 W. Main Street Ste. 200 Durham, NC 27701 or online: gifts.duke.edu/dci

Tribute Wall

MH

“Gale, I was so sorry to hear that Bob had passed away. I worked at Reliance/AkzoNobel with Bob for almost 40 years. I have so many fond memories of traveling with Bob to run trials at our customers, and the many times I got to play golf with Bob. Bob was one of the guys that helped me achieve what I did with my career. He always supported me and said good things about me to my managers. Bob was such a good person that could always put a smile on our faces. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the family as you go through this sad time.

Mike Haynes

Michael Haynes - December 06, 2017 at 06:38 PM

SG

“Gale & Angie,
I was so sad to hear about Bob's passing. He was a great guy. I had the privilege of working with him for 20 years at Reliance / Akzo. He was such a pleasure to work with and we had many laughs, from my guessing that he was dressing as Captain Kangaroo for Halloween, when he was really Mac the Knight, to his story about falling into the Christmas tree one year, while decorating it. I was constantly having to ask him questions, so he finally set me at a quota each day! Many great memories of working with him. Please know that your family is in my thoughts & prayers.

Shelia Ball Griffitts

Shelia Ball Griffitts - December 06, 2017 at 12:22 PM

AW

“ When I was a very young girl Bob, known to us all as "Q" from his football days, was always the life of all family gatherings. He made each family member feel very special.
We all loved him.

Anne-Jim Watkins - December 05, 2017 at 08:34 PM

BK

“ Gale and family,

I was sad to hear of Bob's death. He was a great Sales Manager and I loved working under him. We had a great team of salesmen and staff and he always lead us with wisdom, sincerity and fairness. You could always go to him with anything that you had. He just had a gift in leadership. The only thing he couldn't do was remember where he put something.

I regret to say that I will not be able to be at his service. I have reservations that we made six months ago and have already paid for them. I was hoping the service to be before Thursday. I know he will be missed by everyone that knew him. Gale, I would have loved to see you but I will remember all of you in my prayers. Brenda Kennedy, Former Sales Secretary

Brenda Kennedy - December 04, 2017 at 03:36 PM

DG

“ Dear Gail, and Angela,

I'm so sorry and saddened to hear of the passing of Bob. I wasn't aware that he was ill. I will always treasure the great memories of working with Bob at Reliance and AkzoNobel. Bob was a kind, caring and generous person, he will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

With sympathy and love,

Douglas Gilliam - December 04, 2017 at 11:09 AM

MP

“ Dear Gail,

I cannot express how much Uncle Bob has meant to me over my lifetime. He and daddy were the best of buddies. The wonderful times we all shared over fantastic food and endless conversations will remain with me all my days. The solace I have knowing that the two of them are have a good time together in heaven as I type this message. You will be dearly missed Bob.

Gail please know we all love you and are with you as you journey through this difficult time.

*Love,
Machelle Clarke Pellegrini
and family*

Machelle Clarke Pellegrini - December 03, 2017 at 06:43 PM

MJ

“ Gail,

How deeply saddened I am to hear of Bob's death. He was a gentle and kind man and I consider it a gift to have know him, and I cherish your friendship.

*With sympathy and love to you,
Mary Beth Johnson*

mary beth johnson - December 03, 2017 at 08:41 AM